

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-13 and 16-23 are pending. Applicants acknowledge the allowability of claims 1, 10, 11 and 23. Claims 4, 7, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20 and 22 have been amended herein. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments correct informalities or are otherwise supported as set forth below.

Claim Objections

Claims 4, 5, 7-9 and 16-21 are objected to because of informalities. Applicants have corrected the informalities as the Examiner required and hence respectfully request removal of the objections.

Applicants' Response to the Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement and claims 12, 13 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

The Examiner asserts that it is unclear where the specification supports "aniline except benzene," and that "aniline except benzene" is a confusing phrase. In response thereto, Applicants have amended claim 12 to more distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. Specifically, Applicants have deleted the phrase "except benzene" from claim 12. Applicants respectfully submit that in light of this amendment,

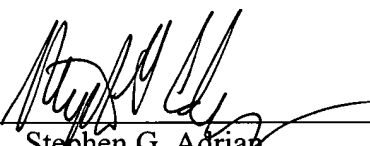
the claim fully complies with the written description requirement and particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter regarded as the invention. Wherefore, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. If, for any reason, it is believed that this application is not in condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number below to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

By: 
Stephen G. Adrian
Reg. No.: 32,878
Attorney for Applicants
Tel: (202) 822-1100
Fax: (202) 822-1111

MJC/SGA/rer